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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

REPORT NO.

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COUNTRY USSR

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INFORMATION REPORT

SUBJECT Aircraft Maneuvers ever Kiev

March 1946 - June 1948

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- There was little flying over kiev between March and August 1946 but intensive practice flying from August 1946 to June 1948.
- 2. Five or six fighters with in-line engine practiced flying every day at altitudes of from 1,500 to 2,000 meters. Fellow Pus, former air force soldiers, designated the planes as yak-9s.
- A formation of 18 to 20 twin-engine aircraft flying in flights approached from the east once or twice every week at an altitude of from 1,500 to 2,000 meters (for arrangement of aircraft see Annex). The planes were believed to be ER-4s. They had two in-line engines, double rudder assembly, glazed nose-gun station and tail-gun position and slightly dihedral wings. This formation was attacked by nine Yak-9s from the rear and above. The fighters, approaching in a formation of three flights at an altitude of 2,500 to 2,800 meters, broke formation just before reaching the bomber formation. The individual fighters then attacked the twin-engine aircraft, particularly those flying on the outer side of the formation, thus pushing them from their course and engaging them in combat, while the remaining formation proceeded.

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It is assumed that the units observed training were stationed at the Kiev-Volynski military airfield.

b. The report, though old, appears worth forwarding as reports on air maneuvers are rarely received.

1 Annex: Bomber Formation Attacked by Fighters over Kiev.

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